

# Good News Letter

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Greetings. I hope to offer an encouraging word in these difficult times.

While on vacation back in July, I stopped in Arizona to spend a few hours at the Petrified Forest and Painted Desert. After driving for a couple of days I could use some time away from the car. I thought it would be a pleasant diversion, and it was, but to my surprise, it wasn't a forest at all, but a desert.

There are no trees, just broken rocks that used to be trees. It turned out to be interesting. Many of the trunks were broken in several places giving them the look of having been sawed by someone, like with a chain saw. I wondered how they got that way. I went to read one of the informational signs and discovered that I was not the first to think of that question. It was one of the most frequently asked, "How did the trees get cut into pieces," or, "Who did that?"

The trees at one time grew in a rain forest and over the



years, weathered floods, continental drift and earthquakes caused by plate tectonics, long periods buried by the ocean lapping over them leaving sediment to cover them, and then the effects of erosion, exposing once more the remains of what used to be trees. After millions of years, the trees had been affected by nearly every major geological phenomenon. They had metamorphosed into beautiful crystallized rocks and broken into stump-like pieces, just like they had been cut up with a saw.

It is among the convictions of the Christian faith that like what the geological forces did to the trees, life's troubled times shape us, make us better, stronger, more durable. Perhaps someone might see our lives and wonder, "Who did that?" To put it in the words of St. Paul from the Letter to the Romans:

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." Romans 5:1-5

And that is a word of encouragement in difficult days. I am sure that as we continue to make our way through the difficulties of the times, we will be able to live our lives in the strength and the peace and the hope that accompanies faith.

Blessings,

Mark

## Panera Volunteers for August

Sept 2 Grubbs  
 Sept 9 Volunteer Needed  
 Sept 16 Lovell  
 Sept 23 Faulk  
 Sept 30 Volunteer Needed

We thank all who volunteer to carry out this important mission of the church. As you can see, we still need some volunteers for a few spots. There is a sign-up sheet for the fall quarter in the Gathering Place. There are other open spots in October and November also.

## Personals

-Deb Fogle has recently started a new job.

-Dwight and Kari Davidson have moved back to Delaware from Granville, Ohio. Dwight is a chaplain at Grant Hospital in Columbus.

-A graveside memorial service was held for Ben Geary on July 26.

-Thanks to Mike Reynolds for being our guest pastor while Pastor Mark was on vacation.

-Claire Turner has moved back to Oxford, Ohio to begin a two-year internship in their equestrian program. Claire is now engaged to be married.

- Alec Ferguson began a new job with the American Red Cross in Columbus.

-Jennifer Turner has begun a new job in the treasurer's office at Delaware City Schools.

-Area Minister Jane Gibbons was a visitor to our worship service on August 8.

-Jane Moore Snyder recently visited with Lana Palmer and asks for our prayers for continued healing for Lana.

-Randy Turner recently traveled to West Virginia where he was able to help his sister make salsa for a women's mission and to visit with his parents and cousin.

-Ben Turner and Bailey Brooks are having a commitment ceremony at noon on October 2 at the church with a reception to follow. There is an RSVP sign-up list on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place.

-Pastor Mark was recently able to visit with our OWU student Love Ayinde and met his sister Joy and learned about his sister Peace. Love's mother is currently in the U.S. undergoing chemotherapy treatments for cancer.

-Mike Reynolds will start a new job this month but will still be with the same hospice organization.

-Candy Lee and Brennan Howe took a trip to Niagara Falls last month where Brennan reinsured his leg.

-Brennan Howe had more oral surgery on August 23.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL DELAYED

After much discussion, we have decided to delay the beginning of Sunday school this fall because of increasing COVID numbers. Rally Day WILL NOT be on September 12.  
 Pam Faulk, Board of Christian Education

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



### September

1 Elijah Showalter  
 3 Alec Ferguson  
 9 Kip & Barbara Smith  
 14 Marci Cooper  
 22 Calvin & Taylor Turner  
 29 Ian Ferguson  
 30 MaryLou Lovell

*Please report any errors.*

## THANK YOU

Thanks to all who contributed to Church World Service on Mother's Day and Father's Day. There are two thank you certificates on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place from CWS.

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Because of rising numbers of COVID cases, we are suspending our monthly women's lunch until further notice.

## Mission/Outreach News

During the month of August we have been collecting food items for People In Need. You have done a great job filling the box and basket with necessities! Peter White delivers the items. Thank you, Peter!

## Panera Pick Up

Thanks to all the volunteers from First Baptist who pick up unsold items from Panera. The items are bagged to provide ease of distributing them to those in need. On Friday morning about 9:30, the volunteers deliver the items to Andrews House on W. Winter Street where they are distributed to those in need.

## Christmas Shoe Boxes are Here!

Darlene Caulkins is starting early in collecting Christmas Boxes! Last year was a such a success! Items that children can use and enjoy are placed in the boxes and sent to Samaritan's Purse to be given to children around the world so that they can experience getting a gift at Christmas. You can track where your box is being sent.

There are cardboard shoeboxes and pamphlets available for this in the Gathering Place next to the Panera sign-up sheet. Ideas for items for the boxes are mini games, paper pads, colored pencils, markers, card games, craft items, small toys, personal care items such as combs, brushes, and toothbrushes, but NO liquids or toothpaste.

Darlene will have a box with sample items at church soon. The boxes are due in November, so we need to get going now! Thanks to all who participated last year. It was fun to go to the store and buy for other children!

## Prayer List

This list is prepared by the Deacons.  
Please send changes to Larry Faulk ([lfaulk01@aol.com](mailto:lfaulk01@aol.com)).

Name	Reason for Prayer
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Candy Lee's sister Trudy	Health Issues

Remember daily all the men and women in the military — Those stationed in the USA and those deployed throughout the world. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

## Undies Sunday

Our September outreach will be to collect new underwear. All sizes- girls, boys, and adults are needed. We think again of school starting and helping children have some new underwear and socks to wear to school.

We are asking you to fill the box to be given to Common Ground Free Store on Central Avenue with new underwear and socks. Thanks for ALL you do!

## Common Ground Free Store

Common Ground Free Store is located at 193 E. Central Ave and has continued to serve those in need. They continue to take donations of new and gently used items. No donations may be left when the store is not open.

Currently, items being accepted for donation include:  
seasonal clothing. (Currently there is a 4 bag limit because of space)  
new socks and underwear  
personal care items, toys,

household items  
purses, handbags, bookbags,  
Packages of diapers size 1-6 and  
wipes

Store hours are:

Monday	6 pm-8:30 pm
Tuesday	6 pm-8:30 pm
Wednesday	10 am-1 pm
Thursday	6 pm-8:30 pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10 am-1 pm

## Fashions and Fixin's

Fashions and Fixin's is the annual fundraiser for Common Ground Free Store. Currently, they are planning to have it.

September 9th. 6:30-9 pm  
Meekers Venue  
385 E. William St.  
Delaware

Tickets are \$50.00 per person and include a delicious dinner, drinks, music, a silent and live auction, and a unique fashion show using the clothing from the free store. Dress is business casual. If you need more information go to [commongroundfreestore.org](http://commongroundfreestore.org)

## Your Favorite Hymn

On the table in the Welcome Center there are slips of paper for you to write the name of your favorite hymn. We would like to include your choices, so fill one out and put it in the offering plate.

## Thanks

Thanks to all the quiet angels who are doing jobs around the church - mowing the grass, doing repairs in the men's bathroom, and fixing the wall in the fellowship hall. Thanks for your time and thoughtfulness to accomplish these jobs for the church. We appreciate it!

## Scripture Readers / Worship Leaders Needed

If you would like to read scripture during worship or serve as a Worship Leader, please let Dr. Allison know of your interest. During worship, the Worship Leader traditionally leads the Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord's Prayer, and the Offertory prayer. They also read scripture when there is not a separate scripture reader that Sunday.

## Have You Considered Online Giving?

If you would like to make an offering or donation to FBC, but cannot attend a worship service or would rather not have to write a check and mail it to FBC, you can now make an offering online. Visit our website at [FBCDelaware.org](http://FBCDelaware.org) and click on the link: "Make an online Offering or Donation." The link will take you to a page describing the current giving options. Click on the link: "Click Here to make an Offering or Donation Online." On the Donation page you can input an amount that you would like to offer for any or all options for giving.

You can choose to give by credit or debit card, or electronically from a checking or savings account. After entering your name and address, you can process your giving and save your profile to simplify future online giving.

If you need assistance in the process, please contact me at [lfaulk01@aol.com](mailto:lfaulk01@aol.com) or 614-204-1098. Your gifts to FBC are appreciated.

-Larry Faulk, treasurer

## Previous Services Available

For the past 15 months, we have been video recording weekly worship services and making them available on our website. Since we have returned to in-person worship, we have continued to video record our worship services. Go to our website: [fbcdelaware.org](http://fbcdelaware.org) and either click on the link titled "Previous Services" or the "Videos" link to view previous services.

## Can You Hear Me Now?




For those who suffer from hearing loss, there are listening devices found in the basket by the stairway in the Welcome Center. These devices pick up anything that goes out over the microphone, which is why it is so important that all announcements and prayer requests be said using the microphone. They work really well, but only after the organ is turned on. Recently, two more devices were purchased, and all devices have brand new batteries. Please remember to turn them off after each use, in order to save the battery life.

### Address Update

Dwight and Kari Davidson  
116 Montrose Avenue  
Delaware, OH 43015

# September

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>September Mission Focus:</b> •Common Ground Free Store			1	2 8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	3	4
5 10 am In-person Worship Holy Communion	<b>Labor Day 6</b>  Labor Day	7	8	9 8:45 Panera Pickup - volunteer needed	10	11 Women's Lunch Suspended until further notice
<b>Sunday School Delayed Until Further Notice</b> 10 am In-person Worship	12	13 5:30 Board of Deacons	14	15	16 8:45 Panera Pickup - Lovell	17 18 8am Men's Breakfast Bob Evans
<b>American Baptist Women's Sunday</b> 10 am In-person Worship October newsletter deadline today	19	20	<b>International Day of Prayer for Peace</b> 	<b>Autumn Begins</b> 	21 22 23 7:00 Parish Council 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	<b>Native American / First Nations Day</b> 24 25
26 10 am In-person Worship October newsletter available today	27	28	29	30 8:45 Panera Pickup - volunteer needed	October 1	2